

**PLEASE AMEND THE DRAWINGS AS FOLLOWS.**

Please amend Fig. 1 to include the legend "Prior Art," as shown in red.

**PLEASE CANCEL THE FOLLOWING CLAIMS.**

Please cancel claim 51.

**PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS.**

Please amend claim 52 as follows.

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52. (AMENDED) A magnetoresistive read head with laminated magnetic shields comprising:

- a first laminated magnetic shield;
- a magnetoresistive sensor element formed on said first laminated magnetic shield;
- a second laminated magnetic shield formed on said magnetoresistive sensor;

wherein the first laminated magnetic shield comprises:

- a substrate;
- a layer of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  of thickness between 0.5 microns and 10 microns formed on said substrate;
- a first layer of ferromagnetic material formed on said layer of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ;
- a layer of ruthenium formed on said first layer of ferromagnetic material;
- a second layer of ferromagnetic material formed on said layer of ruthenium;

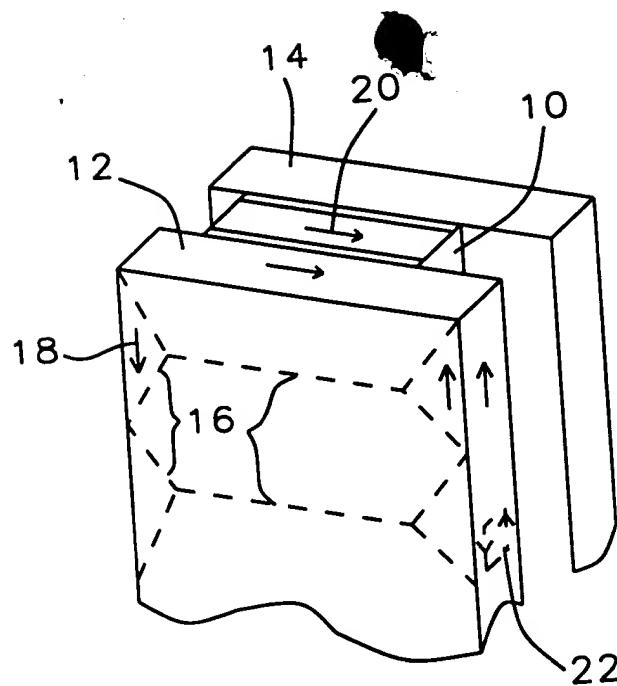


FIG. 1 PRIOR ART.

Approved  
AC 1/7/02